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MEMORANDUM FOR: General Carter

During my conference with Secretary McNamara and Deputy Secretary Gilpatric this morning, the question was raised as to participation by the Department of Defense and CIA in the formulation of policies to be followed by the US delegation to the United Nations Outer Space Committee.

Dr. Scoville had earlier indicated to me that the Agency was dependent on the Department of Defense to represent our views on this subject. It became evident during my discussions in Secretary McNamara's office that the Department of Defense officials were themselves somewhat uncertain about their own role. It was Secretary McNamara's view, in which I concur, that State, Defense, and CIA should be in close consultation in all stages of formulating and developing US policies on this subject.

Mr. Alexis Johnson subsequently agreed with me that all three parties should participate both in working groups and in meetings of the principals on this subject.

This question is of great importance, particularly in view of Dr. Killian's recent letter to the President outlining the need for careful negotiation bearing in mind the possibility of a diplomatic move by the Soviets aimed at frustrating our satellite reconnaissance program. In the past, the subject has been discussed from time to time at the Special Group, and I shall see that this continues to be done. I believe that the DD/R and his staff should serve on the various working groups and Mr. Alexis Johnson has concurred.

I wish to be kept informed on these matters which are of obvious importance to our national security.

  
John A. McCone

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